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ART: D. RUNA T.



Dear friends,

In 1841, one-hundred seventy years ago, Frederick Douglas (slavery abolitionist, women's suffragist, former-slave, radical organizer) delivered a speech, "What to the Slave is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July." He wrote, "The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity, and independence bequeathed by your fathers is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth of July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn." Douglas' words, tragically, span the generations. While the chattel slavery of Douglas' time may not glare in the face of people who will be celebrating The Fourth of July in 2011, the prison system that holds you behind bars is an extension of that same system Douglas decried 170 years ago.

As we recognize how incarcerated people, and many oppressed people within our national borders, are left out of the celebrations of independence I want us to reflect together on what liberty, justice, and freedom mean to us. How, as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender non-conforming, and queer people are we moving towards the liberation we are entitled to as humans living on this earth? What are your dreams of freedom? As currently incarcerated people, some of whom are sentenced to never move freely among us again, what does freedom look like? How do we make that freedom come to life?

Our friends in the Pelican Bay State Prison Security Housing Unit are fighting for a taste of that freedom. Mutope Duguma released a statement from the prisoners calling for prisoners to come together for a hunger strike. The public statement begins, "This is a call for all prisoners in Security Housing Units (SHUs), Administrative Segregation (Ad-Seg), and General Populations (GP), as well as the free oppressed and non-oppressed people to support the indefinite July 1st 2011 *peaceful Hunger Strike* in protest of the violation of our civil/human rights, here at Pelican Bay State Prison Security Housing Unit (PBSP-SHU), short corridor D1 through D4 and its overflow D5 through D10. The demands are clear -

1. Individual Accountability - "This is in response to the application of 'group punishment' as a means to address individual inmates rule violations"
2. Abolish the Debriefing Policy, and Modify Active/Inactive Gang Status Criteria - "Cease the use of innocuous association to deny an active status, cease the use of informant/debriefer allegations"
3. Comply with US Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons 2006 Recommendations Regarding an End to Long-Term Solitary Confinement - "End conditions of isolation, make segregation a last resort, end long-term solitary confinement, provide SHU inmates immediate meaningful access to adequate natural sunlight and quality health care"
4. Provide adequate food
5. Expand and Provide constructive Programming and Privileges for Indefinite SHU Status Inmates.

As we at Black and Pink continue to fight for our own freedom and liberation, we must do so understanding that we are part of the movements of all prisoners fighting for their freedom. Black and Pink will provide support to all those who stand with the prisoners at Pelican Bay knowing that, once there were no prisons, that day will come again.

In loving faith and struggle,  
Jason



# Burning down the closet

Hi, my name is D'Anthony T., I'm a 28 year old bisexual. On November 18 this year I'll be released from prison and I'll be going back to small town USA.

Ever since I was 13 I've repressed and hid my sexuality from all but one person. It took my being in prison to be able to burn down the closet. Funny thing is that some of my peers on the outside always thought it, but I'd deny it. Then I met a man I'll call Tommy, he was from Vietnam. I fell in love with him, he was beautiful inside and out. Then I got locked up and we kept in touch for 6 years, but we faded and he fell off the radar.

I've never known such a connection or that type of love could exist for me, between me and another man. I was the guy who upheld a super heterosexual, promiscuous lifestyle to compensate for my repressed homosexual feelings.

Being that I am to be released soon I would like to be proactive with "my community" of alternative lifestyle living peoples. I would love to be able to be among people whom either share the same ideals about life, or with who I can just plain out be me and not the facade I've been portraying.

I'll be living in Lancaster, Pennsylvania for a least a year, then see where life takes me. And I'm not sure where that is yet, but I would like to travel or even get a place to call my own and live a productive life. Maybe even find love again.

Much love, respect, and adoration,

Sincerely,

D'Anthony T., Pennsylvania



## Beyond Grievances

I've got to say ole' Warrior K's article in the May 2011 issue of the Black & Pink Newsletter really got me fired up. I, too, file grievance after grievance and as a result have been strip searched, locked up in solitary, had my property "stolen," money frozen, and every inch of my cell searched with a fine tooth comb. But I go on...for the struggle!

Texas prison units are falling apart but there is no money to repair them. To help the failing budget, food is taken away from our every meal, clothing that should be thrown away is issued and worn (holes, stains, and all), the heaters are turned off even though the nights drop into the 40's. Inmates extort inmates but security worries about silly things like clothes lines or giving a friend a hug. Incident reports (cases) are written so frequently that staff can't process them within the time limits set by policy. The costs involved in the "person-hours" required to process all these cases cause tax payers to fork out more and more money. The officers wonder why they can't receive raises and higher pay scales as they write disciplinary case after disciplinary case- \$\$. I was written a case while I was asleep- that's how bad it's getting.

So, yes, Warrior K is correct. We need to file written complaints about the conditions we are living in inside these prisons. Grievances are where we begin, but once you're done that, get a bunch of people together and write to:



**U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division- Special Litigation Section- PHB  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530**

They are an agency that looks at prison conditions that violate our rights, affecting large numbers of inmates. The more they hear from us, the more likely they are to do something. If we sit back and do nothing, nothing will be done to improve our lives. So help me and yourselves- pick up that pen & paper and complain, complain, complain!

For the struggle,  
Ricky M., Texas

P.S. Send your free world family and friends to [www.blackandpinkart.org](http://www.blackandpinkart.org) and help support your incarcerated artist family!

# Here I Am

Don't judge me you wouldn't understand  
 How it would feel to be touched by this man  
 The palms of my hands embrace you in the spiritual form  
 Wiping away all doubts please don't accept the norms  
 I want you, I need you that what this is about  
 Where is your heart right now?  
 Is it locked down waitin' to be free?  
 Here I am  
 Look no further  
 Lust and love you can have all of me  
 Just let me know how you want it  
 Fast or slow  
 Soft or hard  
 Release those tears & pain  
 I know you're tired  
 One in a million  
 This is your chance  
 It was written  
 Destined to be  
 All you gotta do is find a way to contact me  
 You'll see that physically your true friend really does exist  
 Here I am  
 Take a change at love again!  
 First time?  
 Yours & mine...

-Da'Rell R., Maryland



Art: William F.

# I Shine Beautiful

Born into a world of hate, sin  
 Family doesn't love, not even friends  
 Darkness comes in the time of need  
 Blood drips from my soul as I scream  
 How can your love be so wonderful to have  
 When I'm thrown away like house trash  
 I cry and try not to close my eyes at night  
 Demons laugh in my face as I try to take flight  
 Homo to homosexual to the reality of life  
 See me as I am and that's a breath of light  
 Yes, I shine beautiful as the sun  
 Previous I be, but yet, love is so far away.  
 I live a loveless life with faith  
 To survive another hateful day.

By Steven C., AKA Half Pint, Pennsylvania.  
 Love you Black & Pink, Peace!

# Erasers

All of the Erasers they give you  
 Cannot heal your past  
 All of the Erasers they give you  
 They won't always last  
 All this emotion you can't bottle in  
 Like being being in quicksand and trying to swim  
 The Erasers you have keep you so still  
 It leaves you with no emotion or emotion to feel  
 It leaves you no thought, no thought in mind  
 It just leaves you with issues to bury behind  
 But what will you do when the Erasers wear down?  
 Put on the fake smile again  
 And pretend that the past  
 Hasn't affected you now.

By Louis R, California

# Your Ballot: Vote for the Leadership Circle!

B&P #	Put an "X" in up to 10 boxes to Vote for Prisoner Candidates
100	Jordan Nathaniel G.
101	Shawn "Harlequinne Mystique" B.
102	William F.
103	Bobby-Joe B.
104	Juan H.
105	Angela Monique R.
106	Pat T.
107	Anthony U.
108	Timothy C.
109	Lee D.
110	J.D. H. (Jamee Diedre)
111	Paul F. S. – AKA Shaylanna
112	Sheldon T.
113	Wesley P.
114	Bryan B.
115	Andrew H.
116	Charlie C.
117	Mandell M.
118	Ken L.
119	Bobby D.
120	Tom M.
121	Kelly J.
122	Jennifer G.
123	Robert M.
124	Ricky M.
125	Dan C.
126	Kevin F.
127	Patrice D.
128	Nelson L. Jr.
129	Tonie E.
130	Daryl H.

It's PRIDE season, and it's also VOTING season!!

In the JUNE 2011 and JULY 2011 issues of the Black & Pink Newsletter, you will have a chance to read through statements written by Leadership Circle applications and VOTE!!!

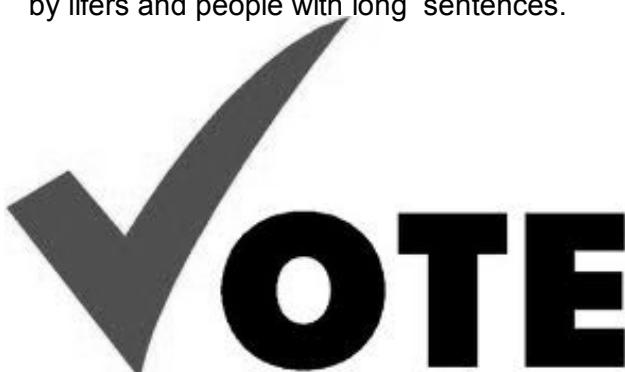
**PLEASE MAIL THIS PAGE BACK TO:**  
**BLACK AND PINK—LC VOTE**  
**C/O COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BOSTON**  
**565 BOYLSTON STREET**  
**BOSTON, MA 02116**

The Leadership Circle is a 1-year commitment. The concept of a group of 20 people (10 people in prison and 10 people in the "free world") has been chosen so there can be many voices, and not be too big to make communication hard. So far, only 8 of the "freeworld" volunteers have expressed interested in the extra commitment of joining the LC.

Since more people want to be on the "inside" Leadership Circle than can, we hope people will coordinate B&P projects in their prison, start a chapter, be a contact person, or regularly share thoughts. We need it all :)

For those elected to the Leadership Circle, written training will be provided about decisions making, organizing, and other skills that LC members request training on. All levels of experience can respond, what's most important is our passion and commitment.

The B&P Purpose and Analysis will best be served by having a diversity of people on the Leadership Circle (LC). This includes race, gender, sexuality, age, geography, lifers/short-timers, ability, etc. The "free world" LC would like our full LC to be at least half people of color, not majority male, and well-represented by lifers and people with long sentences.



B&P #	Put an "X" in up to 8 boxes to Vote for "Free world" Candidates
200	Libby Collins
201	Dustin Tompkins
202	Elizabeth Winter Forsyth
203	Dorsey Bass
204	Ian Trefethen
205	Jason Lydon
206	Reed Miller
207	Emma O'Brien

# Prisoner Leadership Circle Candidates

## **Jordan Nathaniel G.**

Being young doesn't make me any less susceptible to the harsh realities of life. Personally I've experienced the hurt/pain of the world. I/we must speak about the silence, if we are to end the suffering. This includes all those free and incarcerated. We must stand for each other if we don't who will? Remember it only takes one voice to start a revolution.

Race – Hispanic	Gender – Male	Location – Huntsville, TX
Sexuality – Homosexual/gay	Age – 27	Sentence – 11 years

## **Shawn "Harlequine Mystique" B.**

Because I'm articulate, ambitious, understanding, empathetic, merciful, compassionate, open-minded, direct, full of conviction, thoughtful and selfless, extroverted and love people, my vision is that we all unite and support and love one another in every way possible, motivated by love, equality and selflessness. I hope to exemplify and embody love for all through example and selflessness and win more rights for our people.

Race – white	Gender – Bi-gendered/woman	Age – 32
Sexuality – Born male	Location - Iowa Park, Texas	Sentence – Life + 6 years

## **William F.**

I would like to join the leadership circle not only to improve my situation, but that others who are like me, incarcerated, cut off from the "real world," lonely and in need of meaningful inspiration from those not just from within the walls, but those who are out there on the outside who care about us our struggles with the system, as well as the day-to-day struggles with those who are around us who either don't understand, don't care, or even worse – hate us based on their personal fears.

Race – White	Gender – Male	Age – 40
Sexuality – Gay	Location – Marion Ohio	Sentence – 15 to life
Other – Orthodox Jewish		

## **Bobby-Joe B.**

I think that I would be a great asset to the leadership circle because I am always trying to find better ways to better myself and the places that I am. I always try to help my fellow men/women, I am open-minded and can adapt to changes or to new ideas that may be proposed. I would love the chance to help one and all.

Race – white	Gender – male	Age 34
Sexuality- bisexual	Location – Beeville, TX	Sentence – 27 years

## **Angela Monique R.**

I want to join the Leadership "Circle because I feel like the LGBTQ's of all the prisons should be treated like the non-LGBTQ's because we are all human. Just because we love the same sex does not make us any different from the rest of the people.

Race – African American	Gender – Femme	Age – 30
Sexuality – Bisexual	Location – Gatesville, TX	Sentence – 2 Years

## **Pat T.**

I have been incarcerated since 1979 and over the past 32 years I have worked hard to help educate others that they have choices they need not live in fear. They can control their lives and bodies while in Prison. In the mid 1990s I helped found and incorporate a Native American organization with a council made up of inmates around the country. Although I am no longer associated with it I believe "Earthbridge" is still going strong.

Race – Native American	Gender – Male	Age 52
Sexuality – Gay/TV	Location – Missouri	Sentence – Life

## **Anthony U.**

I believe very much in Black and Pink's mission and want to use my skills as a leader to reach my brothers and sisters who are with me in this struggle. As a LC member I will do everything in my power to bring positive energy and unity to all of the B&P family. This unity is what is most important

Race – white	Gender – male	Age – 33
Sexuality – gay	Location – Texarkana, TX	Sentence – Out July 2013

**Timothy C.**

I support our rights by making people aware of what we go through in prison. Men here come to me to talk as they're looking for support or answers on gay/bi lifestyle. They put their trust in me not to lie and I don't. I have helped young men outside deal with problems they faced due to family and friends.

Race – white	Gender- male	Age 44
Sexuality – gay	Location – Abilene, TX	Sentence – Life

**Lee D.**

I am a gay male incarcerated in Texas; that have and make policies discriminating against prisoners. I would like to join the leadership circle. I have more than 20 years experience with prisoners and GED cognitive skills. I'm a clergyman, president/executive Director and program agent. I'm orderly, organized and accept authority.

Race – African American	Gender – Male	Location – Huntsville, TX
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 39	Sentence 99 Years

**J.D. H. (Jamee Diedre)**

I want to be in the Leadership Circle to be part of the solution and to be strong for those who can't be. I am a retired S.F.C. U.S. Army Rangers, and currently serve our Wiccan Circle as Elder and Priestess. I desire to be an example, through leadership, that we can all be who we really are and to show love, strength, and pride for ourselves and others. Blessed Be.

Race – Irish/Cherokee	Gender – Trans-woman	Age 43
Sexuality – bisexual	Location – Lovelock Nevada	Sentence – Life x 2

**Paul F. S. – AKA Shaylanna**

I would like to join the LC because I have prior experiences from being the leader of my Boy Scouts Troop. With the knowledge I have I will be able to swing a wrecking ball into the racist and sexist underpinnings of the American prison system. I can show individuals how to confront the human rights catastrophe in our jails and prisons.

Race – African American	Gender – Trans-woman	Age – 24
Sexuality – not biased	Location – New York State	Sentence – 28 years

**Sheldon T.**

I offer a life commitment. I'm experienced in prison matters, educated, with the social skills of communicating even with difficult individuals. Should I become a member of the LC you can be assured that my dedication with maintain a continuation B&P's integrity and commitment to quality and overall excellence towards assisting our LGBTQ family as a whole.

Race – Black	Gender – Male	Location, Lovelady, TX
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 40	Sentence – Life

**Wesley P.**

I'm a gay, outspoken man and am respected by many in my immediate surroundings. I know how to litigate a little and have been incarcerated in the Texas prison system for 12 years on a 15-year sentence and know how to teach my peers, especially those who are gay, bisexual, etc., on survival techniques in prison, and how to advocate for and support each other.

Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Kenedy, TX
Sexuality – homo	Age 33	Sentence – 15 years

**Bryan B.**

I am well educated, motivated and experienced. I have extensive experience with computers, Internet, technology and entrepreneurship. I can help with many ideas for fundraising and starting a business to pay for expenses. I have a big heart but a tortured soul that needs to make a difference and make new decent friend and set us all free.

Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Bellefonte, PA
Sexuality – gay	Age – 40	Sentence – 9-30 years

**Juan H.**

I like to hear what other people have to say and like to write to people that's just like me, gay J I hope I am doing right by my people.

Race – Black	Gender – gay	Age – 32
Sexuality – gay boy	Location – Represa, CA	Sentence – life

**Andrew H.**

I read books on a college level – I read books every day all day including revolutionary, spiritual, economics, and anti-imperialism. I write good poems too with a lesson at the end. I am good at networking and getting along with everybody. I got a lot of information that I can provide in support of our goals and aspirations. I am a great thinker.

Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Frackville, PA
Sexuality – Bisexual	Age – 30	Sentence – 10-20 years

**Charlie C.**

I would like to become a member of the Leadership Circle because I never have been a member of anything at all and am willing to learn. In the prison system in PA all of the guards pick on the gay, bisexual prisoners by sexual harassment and denying you the things you want and even talk to you mean and deny your paper-work and ask for sexual favors and sometimes take it. I would like to help stop prison rape.

Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Cresson, PA
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 37	Sentence – 16 months to 5 years

**Mandell M.**

I feel that I would be a good leader because I am a good people person, I know how to talk to people, I am a good listener and I like to show people how to get things done instead of just talking. I also like to bring the talent out of others.

Race – Jamaican/Scottish	Gender – Male	Location – Clinton, NY
Sexuality – Bi	Age – 27	Sentence – Out 2012 or 2013

**Ken L.**

I love to help others in need. I'm very friendly, open-minded and a great listener. I'm the head rep for my religious group here. I'm a great leader and I can always learn from others too.

Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Petersburg, VA
Sexuality – gay	Age – 35	Sentence – Out in 2018

**Bobby D.**

I want to be helpful to the youth and many people who are incarcerated, as well as many beyond these prison walls, and I really enjoy working with people from every walk of life. I am a great listener. I am a good person and want to be helpful to Black and Pink.

Race – African American/Native American	Gender – Male	Location – Vacaville, CA
Sexuality – Bisexual	Age – 48	Sentence – Pending

**Tom M.**

I'm a person that others tend to gravitate to for advice and help. I have been incarcerated for 20 years; hence I know how to navigate the penal system. My sexuality and gender neutrality encourage people to approach me and help make them real at ease around me. This aids me in being a part of positive change and utilizing my leadership abilities.

Race – white	Gender – Androgynous	Location – Buena Vista, CO
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 38	Sentence – 30 years

**Kelly J.**

I would like to be a part of B&P for a number of reasons, but the most important to me is the fact that I really want to contribute something positive and to somehow make up at least in part for the wrongs I have brought upon myself and especially others. Skills: former office professional, political newsletter editor/writer, current self-taught jailhouse lawyer and multi-grievance filer.

Race – white	Gender – male	Location – North Carolina
Sexuality – gay/queer	Age – 46	Sentence – 305 months

**Jennifer G.**

I've been imprisoned over 21 years and am serving a life sentenced under "three strikes" for an inmate-manufactured weapon and assault and battery on an officer. I would like to help organize and give voice especially to lesbian/Amazon feminist revolution and prison abolition in addition to LGBTQ activism

Race – white/American Indian	Gender – Transwomyn	Age – 41
Sexuality – bisexual	Location- Tehachapi, CA	Sentence – Lifer

**Robert M.**

I am an LGBTQ advocate here. I help anyone who has a problem with staff or policy, especially those who can't read or write. I'm already a thorn in the prison's side. I hate bullies. We should be proud of who we are and never allow anyone to take away our pride of being gay. Stand proud. Smile. Father of 6.

Race – Hispanic	Gender – male	Location – Corocran, CA
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 38	Sentence – Life w/o parole

**Ricky M.**

During the more than 20 years of my life in state and federal prisons/jails, I have been beaten, robbed, terrified, raped, have seen friends die, AIDS kill, suicides, had family abandon me and parents die. But I've also been loved, in-love, forgiven by God, made friends, been a leader, learned survival skills, been educated, created art and had great sex. Through my experiences I could provide insight to the leadership circle of what life in prison is truly like and the reforms that need to be made.

Race – white	Gender – male	Sentence – Life
Sexuality – gay	Age – 50	Location – New Boston, TX

**Dan C.**

I would like to become a leader because I always encourage people to do the right thing in life to become a better person. I am one who loves to communicate through letters with people.

Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Wichita Falls, TX
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 40	Sentence – 35 years, on appeal

**Kevin F.**

I am a jailhouse lawyer; I recognize that it is only through the outside unification and inside unification that we can beat the prison industrial complex. Plus we need to expand training into other parts of the country. It must be understood that one of the main reasons the government is able to keep such a strangle on society is the media, so we as a prison grounded network must also use the same weapon the system uses.

Race – African American	Sexuality – Bisexual	Location – Santa Rosa, CA
Gender – Male	Age – 42	Sentence – Life plus 25 years

**Patrice D.**

I am a relatively intelligent person who is definitely socially conscious. I believe I can articulate certain points of view that may not be necessarily emphasized by B&P. I care about improving planetary conditions, regardless of the fact that I am incarcerated. Also, I want to do my part to put an end to the prison industrial complex, I've studied the topic extensively. I don't want to treat the disease of the PIC, I want to get rid of it.

Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Pontiac, IL
Sexuality – gay	Age – 35	Sentence – Life w/o parole

**Nelson L. Jr.**

I want to join the leadership circle because I have been in prison for a year and everybody hates me and my friends and we need to stick together as a family to show them we are still human beings. I have been gay since I was 13 years old and I want to help a lot of my friends in life.

Race – Hispanic	Gender – Male	Location – Waynesburg, PA
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 21	Sentence – 6 – 12 years

**Tonie E.**

I would love to join the leadership circle due to the fact that we as transgenders are being discriminated against. We as a whole need to be heard. We need to be understood and not misused. I would like to listen to others and share with them how I perceive matters, situations, issues. As a leadership councilperson I will be able to help others and it has not been easy being in prison and I take it one day at a time. God is good!

Race – African American	Gender – Transgender	Location – Delano, CA
Sexuality – males only	Age – 55	Sentence – Lifer

**Daryl H.**

I know the prison industrial complex top to bottom, starting as a ward of the state at age 8, Boys Homes, Juvenile prisons, courts, to adult prison at 17. I've been in prison since 1997 with the exception of one year. I am very intelligent and I know Oklahoma and federal law. I know all the facts of Gay prison issues. I will never get out of prison.

Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Lawton, OK
Sexuality – gay	Age – 30	Sentence – 56 years

# “Free World” Leadership Circle Candidates

## Libby Collins

I've been volunteering with the pen-pal program since December 2010, and I f\*\*king hate prisons. I am a womens and genders studies and political science student, and I hope to keep working on the LC!

Race – white	Gender – woman
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 21
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## Dustin Tompkins

I would like to be part of the leadership circle because I feel that prisons are one of the worst systems of oppression in America and I want to do whatever I can to abolish them. I've been processing mail for months.

Race – white	Gender – male
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 25
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## Elizabeth Winter Forsyth

I want to be part of the Leadership Circle because I want to live together with all the LGBT people in this country in one big happy family! I have been an Outreach Volunteer for several months, recruiting more volunteers and pen-pals, on the internet and in person.

Race – white	Gender – femme genderqueer
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Sexuality – pansexual	Age – 22
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## Dorsey Bass

I've been volunteering with Black & Pink since Sept. 2010. Currently I am a co-coordinator of Black & Pink Art and a volunteer for the pen-pal program. I am excited about building a loving and inclusive movement for prison abolition with our amazing Black & Pink family!

Race – white	Gender – boy
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 19
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## Ian Trefethen

Hi! I have worked on the Pen-pal program and Newsletter since 2009. My passion is social justice organizing for liberation. I believe in building LGBTQ community on both sides of the prison bars. I would be honored to serve our family on the Leadership Circle until more people formerly incarcerated or directly impacted by the prison system take my place .

Race – white	Gender – male
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 29
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## Jason Lydon

I have been dedicated to the abolition of the prison industrial complex for a long time. Since getting out of prison it has been a top priority of my life to be sure that LGBTQ prisoners are heard and supported until we are rid of such a terrible system. I would love to continue in a position of leadership.

Race – white	Gender – man
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 28
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## Reed Miller

I joined LGBTQ advocacy and anti-war activism when I was 15; I started Black and Pink Art in Spring 2010. So many things about American society disturb me; many of them are related to racism and capitalism. I hate that people are inhumanely put in cages, and I want my fellow LGBTQ people to develop awareness and challenge these systems.

Race – white	Gender – transman (female-to-male)
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 25
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## Emma O'Brien

I've been reading and responding to incoming mail for Black and Pink since February 2011 and would adore continuing to work for this organization through the Leadership Circle. Being a part of this community, in and outside prison walls, is something I am exceptionally grateful for. Thanks, y'all!

Race – white	Gender – ciswoman (woman at birth and now)
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Sexuality – queer	Age – 21
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Newsletter Subscriptions (start or stop )

**Black and *Pink*– Newsletter Subscriptions**

Newsletter Submissions

**Black and *Pink*– Newsletter Submissions**

Free “Outside” Pen-Pal Requests

**Black and *Pink*– Pen Pal**

**SEND YOUR BALLOTS TO:**

**Black and *Pink*– LC VOTE**

Ideas for Black & Pink and  
Statement of Purpose Feedback

**Black and *Pink*– Developing Leadership**

**Write to B&P!**

**c/o Community Church of Boston  
565 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116**

**Write to B&P Art!**

*\*\*\*New Address as of January 2011! \*\*\**

**Black & Pink Art c/o Reed Miller  
200 Amory Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130**

**LEGAL:** Consider writing to Lambda Legal for support or referrals with legal issues that you are having. “Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.”

**Lambda Legal, National Office 120 Wall Street, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10005, 212-809-8585**

Another resource to turn to, if you can afford the subscription (\$24 yearly, payable with new stamps), is Prison Legal News. This resource was co-started by a former gay prisoner, Ed Mead, though now it is run by Paul Wright. You can reach them by writing to: **Prison Legal News, P.O. Box 2420, West Brattleboro, VT 05303**

**SURVIVORS:** Just Detention International provides support for prisoners who are survivors of sexual abuse. Write them at the legal address below for a packet. Each packet includes an introductory letter, a list of local resources, fact sheets, publications about recovery from sexual abuse, and a letter of hope from another survivor.  
**Ms. Melissa Rothstein, Esq., 3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340, Los Angeles, CA 90010**



Artwork: T.W. J.



Artwork: David K.